

Overview on coherent elastic neutrino nucleus scattering at reactor site

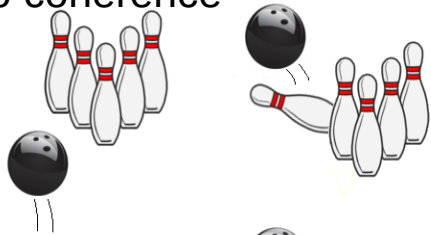
Janina Hakenmüller

AAP conference, Aachen, 28th of October

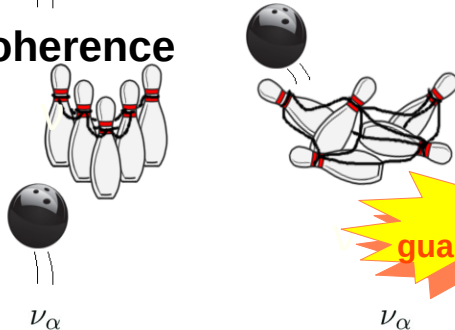


Coherent elastic neutrino nucleus scattering (CEvNS)

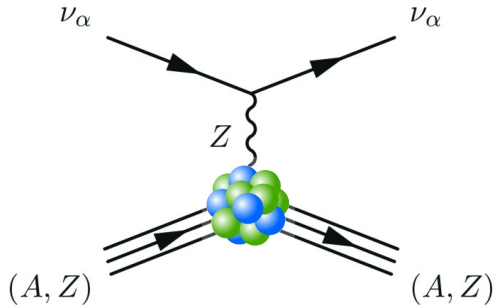
no coherence



coherence



Strike guaranteed!



- [standard model interaction](#), flavor blind, no energy threshold
- predicted in 1974: D.Z. Freedmann, [Phys. Rev. 9 \(1974\) 5](#)
- first detected in 2017: COHERENT experiment
 - CsI detector at pion decay-at-rest source
- detection at nuclear reactor (lower ν energies) still pending
- cross section **large** compared to other neutrino interactions (e.g inverse beta decay)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{G_f^2}{16\pi^2} (N - (1 - 4\sin^2\theta_W)Z)^2 E_\nu^2 (1 + \cos\theta) F(Q^2)$$

neutrino energy nucleus nuclear form factor
 $F(Q^2) \rightarrow 1$ for $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$

coherence condition:

$\lambda(\text{mom. transfer } Q) > \text{size of atom} \Rightarrow \sigma \sim (\#\text{scatter targets})^2$

→ upper limit on neutrino energy:

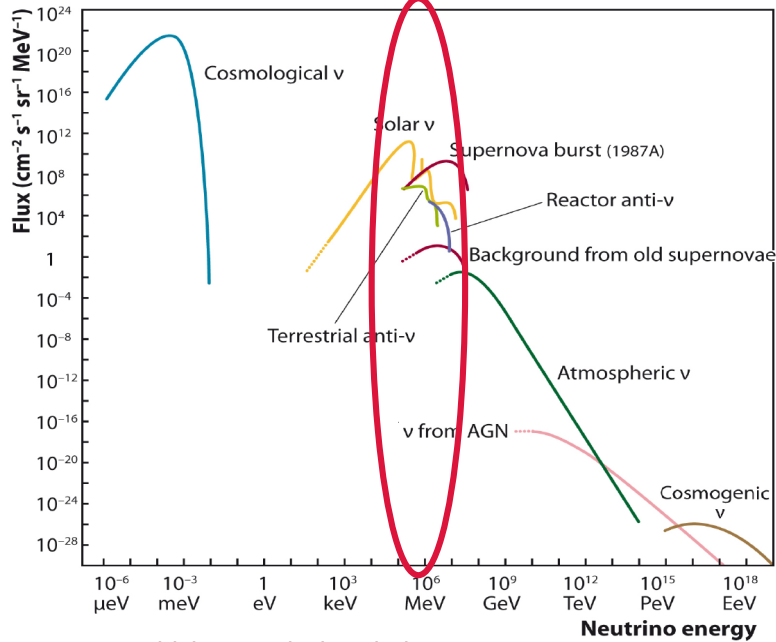
$$E_\nu \leq \frac{1}{2R_A} \approx \frac{197}{2.5 \sqrt[3]{A}} \quad (\text{MeV})$$

$$E_{\text{max}} \leq 50 \text{ MeV (for medium } A)$$

R_A =radius, A = mass number

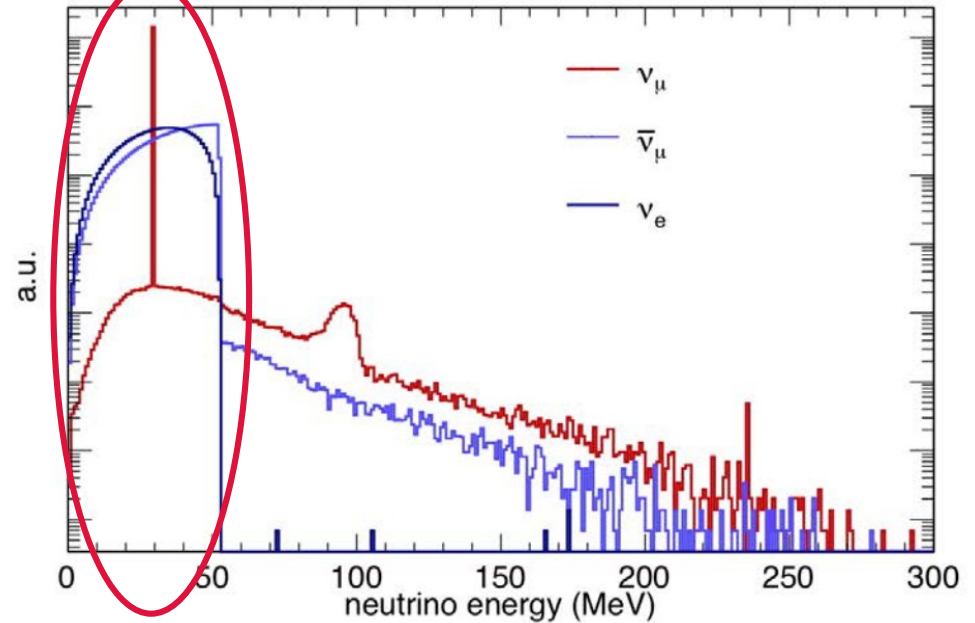
Neutrino sources

natural and reactor neutrinos



Katz, Ulrich F., and Ch Spiering.
Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 67.3 (2012): 651-704.

accelerator neutrinos

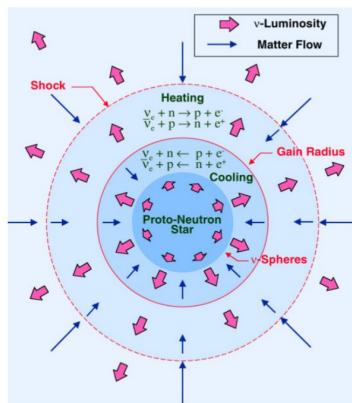


D. Akimov et al., Science 10.1126/science.aao0990, 2017

radioactive decay, solar neutrinos, supernovae, nuclear reactor, spallation source

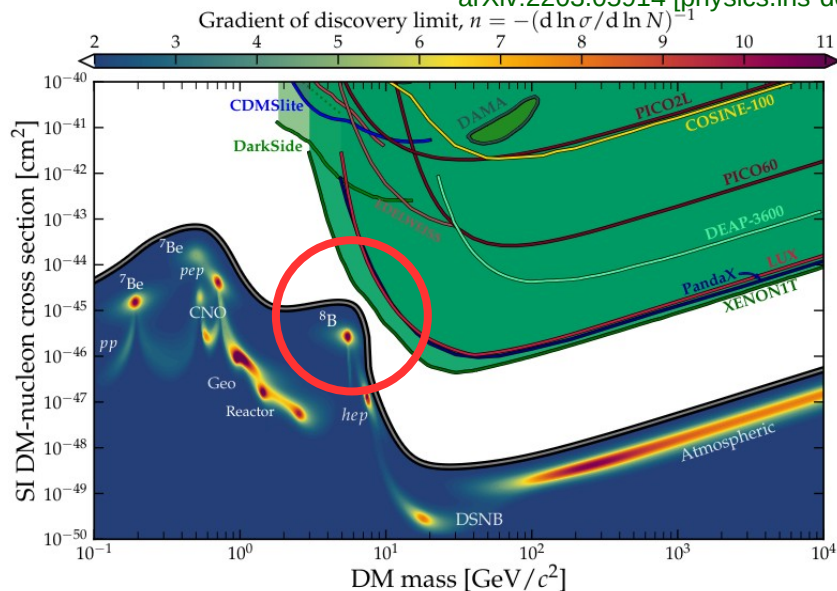
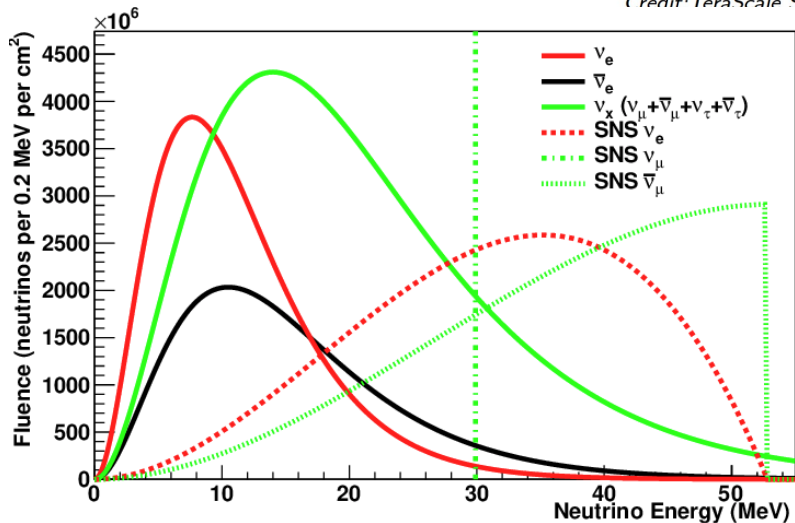
Motivation

- stellar collapse: 99% energy released in neutrinos
 - burst modeling
 - detect on Earth

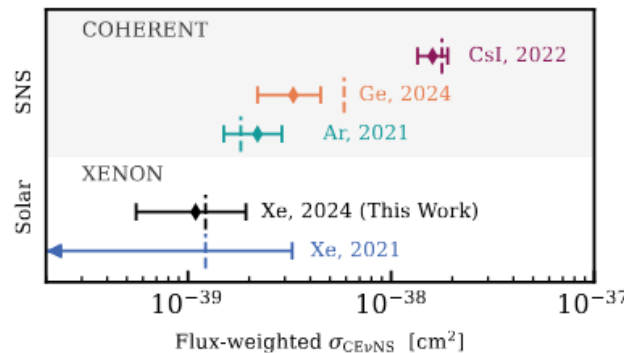


Credit: TeraScale Supernova Initiative

Efremenko, Yu, and William Raphael Hix. JPCS, Vol. 173. No. 1. IOP Publishing, 2009.



- “neutrino floor/fog” in dark matter experiments: signature like dark matter → same detector response

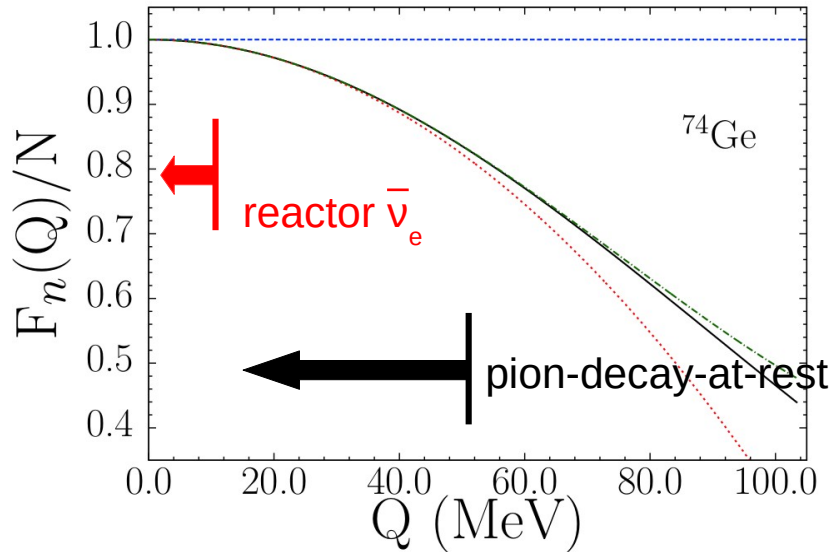


First strong hint this summer!

XenonNT 2.7 σ , arXiv:2408.02877
 PandaX 2.6 σ , arXiv:2407.10892

Motivation

neutron form factor $F(Q^2)$

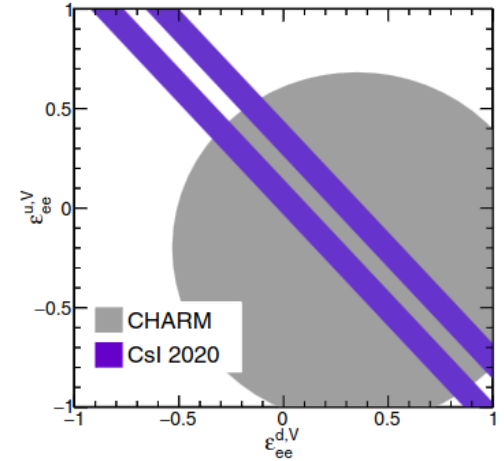
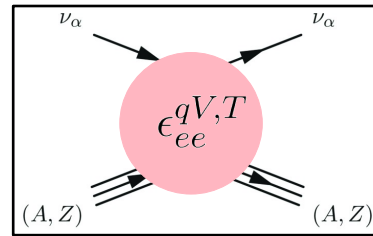


K. Patton et al., Phys. Rev. C 86 (2012) 0246

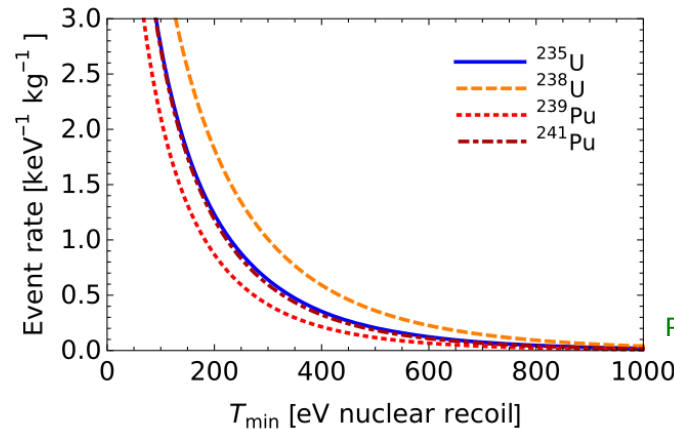
Weinberg angle at low energies

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto (N - (1 - 4\sin^2\theta_W)Z)^2$$

Beyond the standard model:
non-standard interactions,
light mediators,...



Reactor monitoring and non-proliferation



- non-invasive
- spent fuel monitoring
- advanced reactor systems: molten salt-fueled (NuTool report)

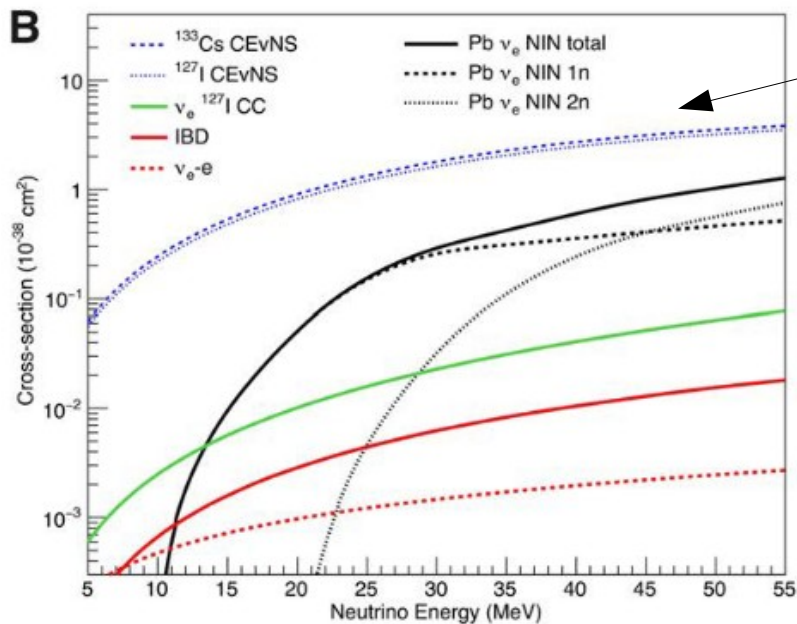
PHYS. REV. D 102, 053008 (2020)

Many talks on reactor monitoring with neutrons

Talk: B. Ryan 29th of Oct., finding trafficked nuclear materials with CEVNS

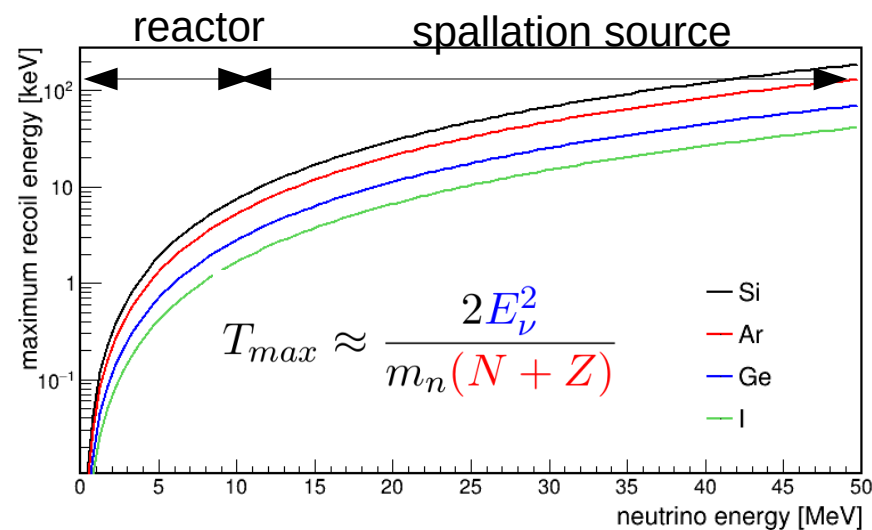
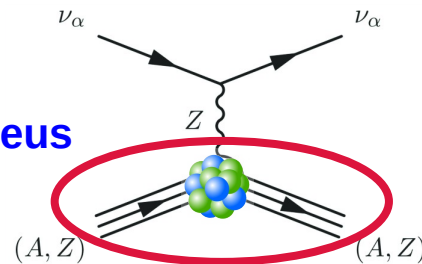
Detecting CEvNS

D. Akimov et al., Science 10.1126/science.aa0990, 2017



COHERENT
CsI

Detection parameter:
recoil of target nucleus



Coherence condition: $\sigma \propto N^2 E_\nu^2$

large cross section \Rightarrow small detector (kg sized!)

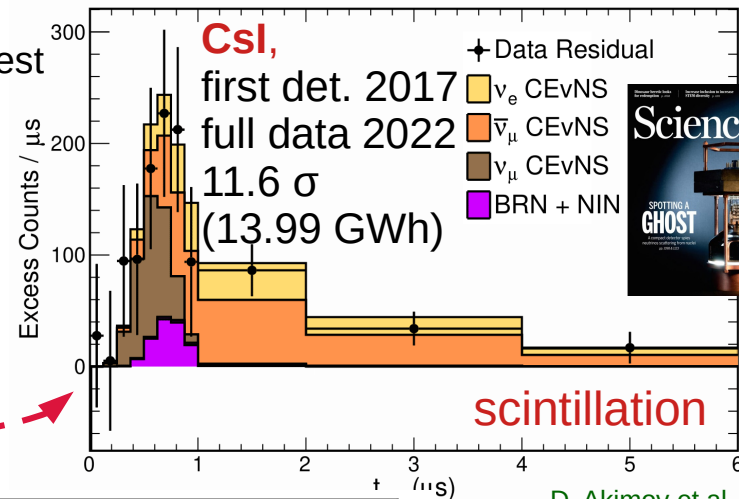
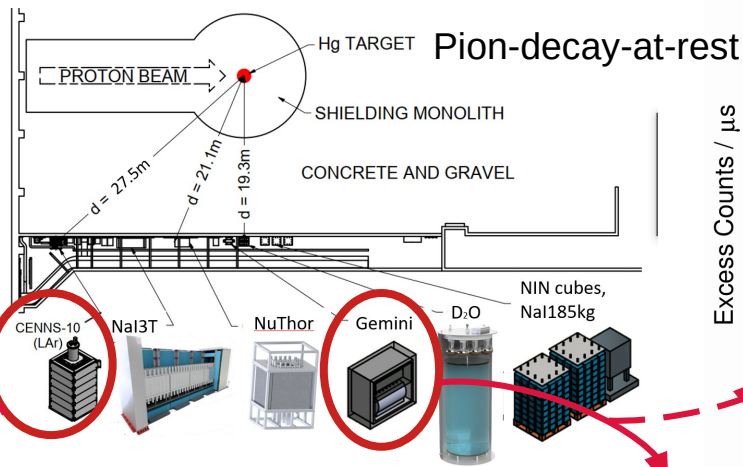
First detection of CEvNS



Talk: more on COHERENT 30th of Oct.

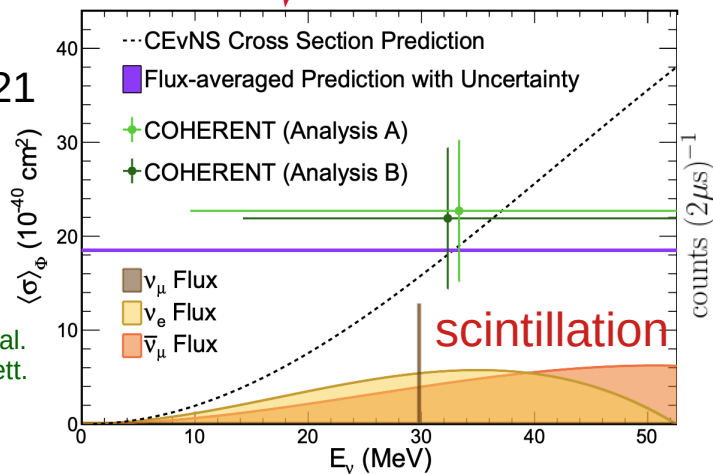


Neutrino alley at spallation neutron source (SNS): (Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA)

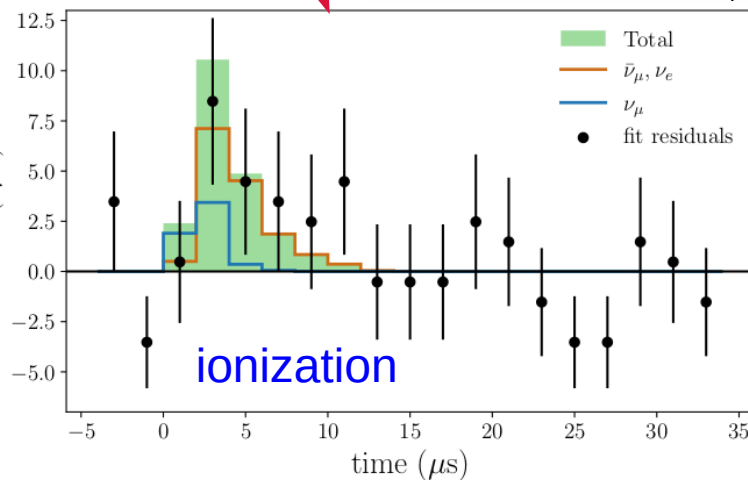


D. Akimov et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 129, 081801, 2022

LAr, 2021
3.5 σ
(6.12 GWh)



D. Akimov et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 012002, 2021



Ge, 2023, 3.9 σ
(4.58 GWh,
6/21/23 -
8/15/23)

Adamski, S., et al., arXiv:2406.13806 (2024).

CEvNS cross section

N^2 dependence \leftrightarrow test of standard model physics

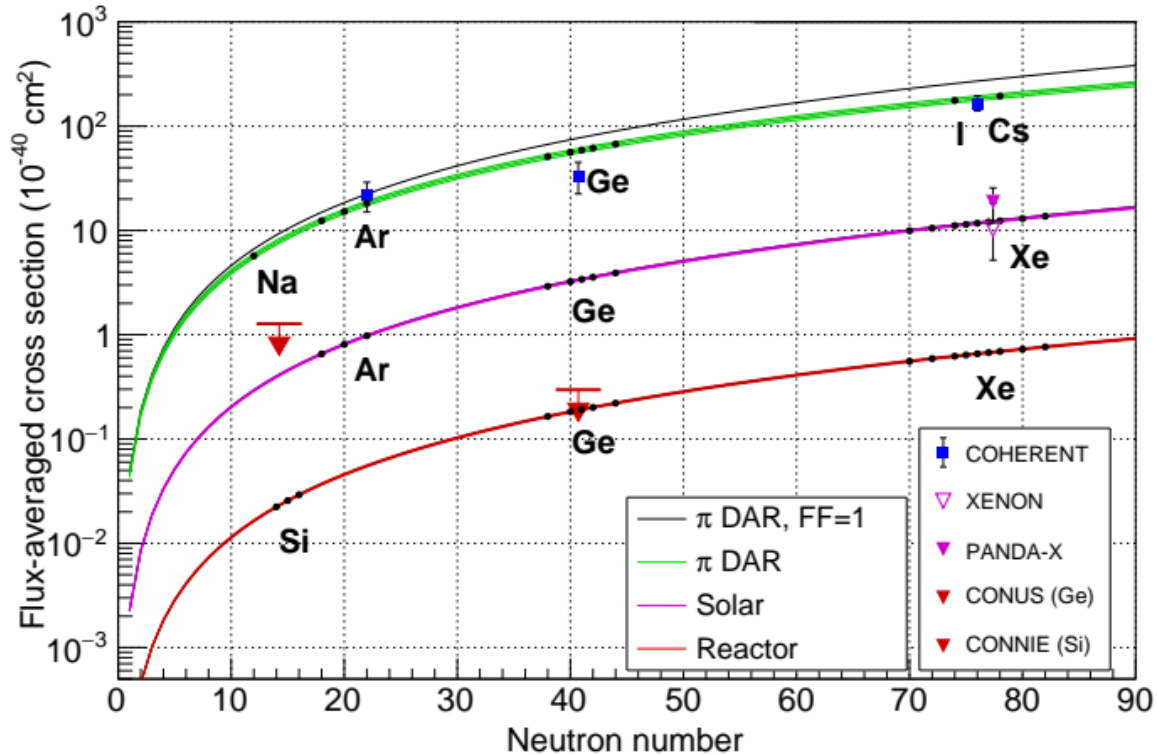


Figure courtesy of K. Scholberg

Comparison π DAR to reactor

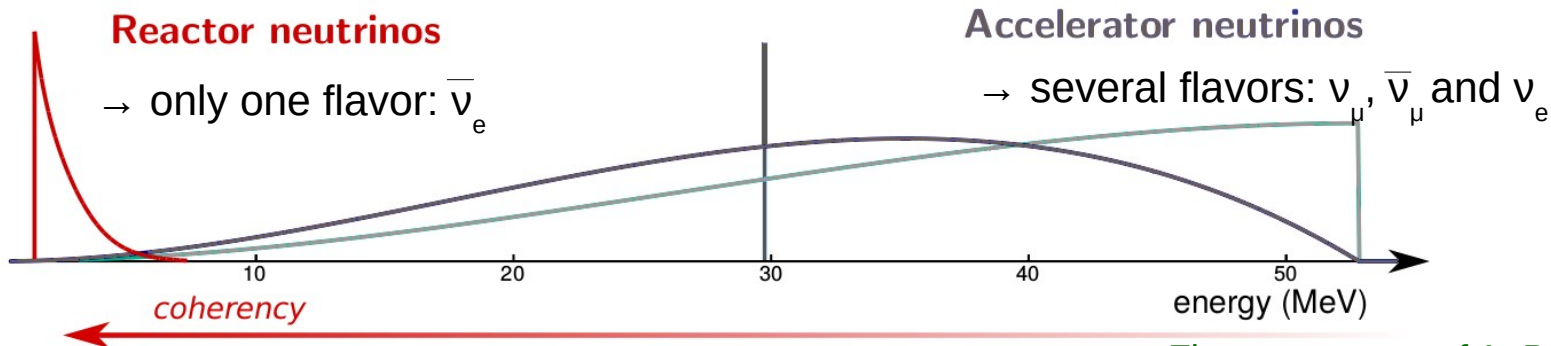
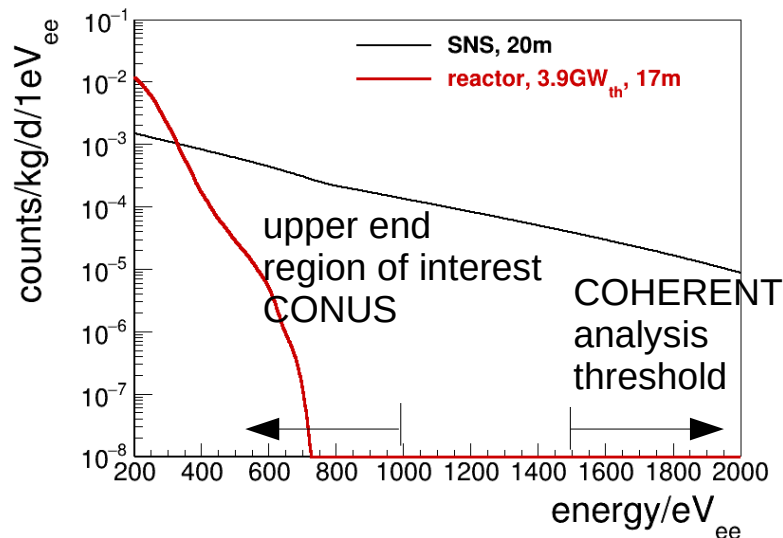


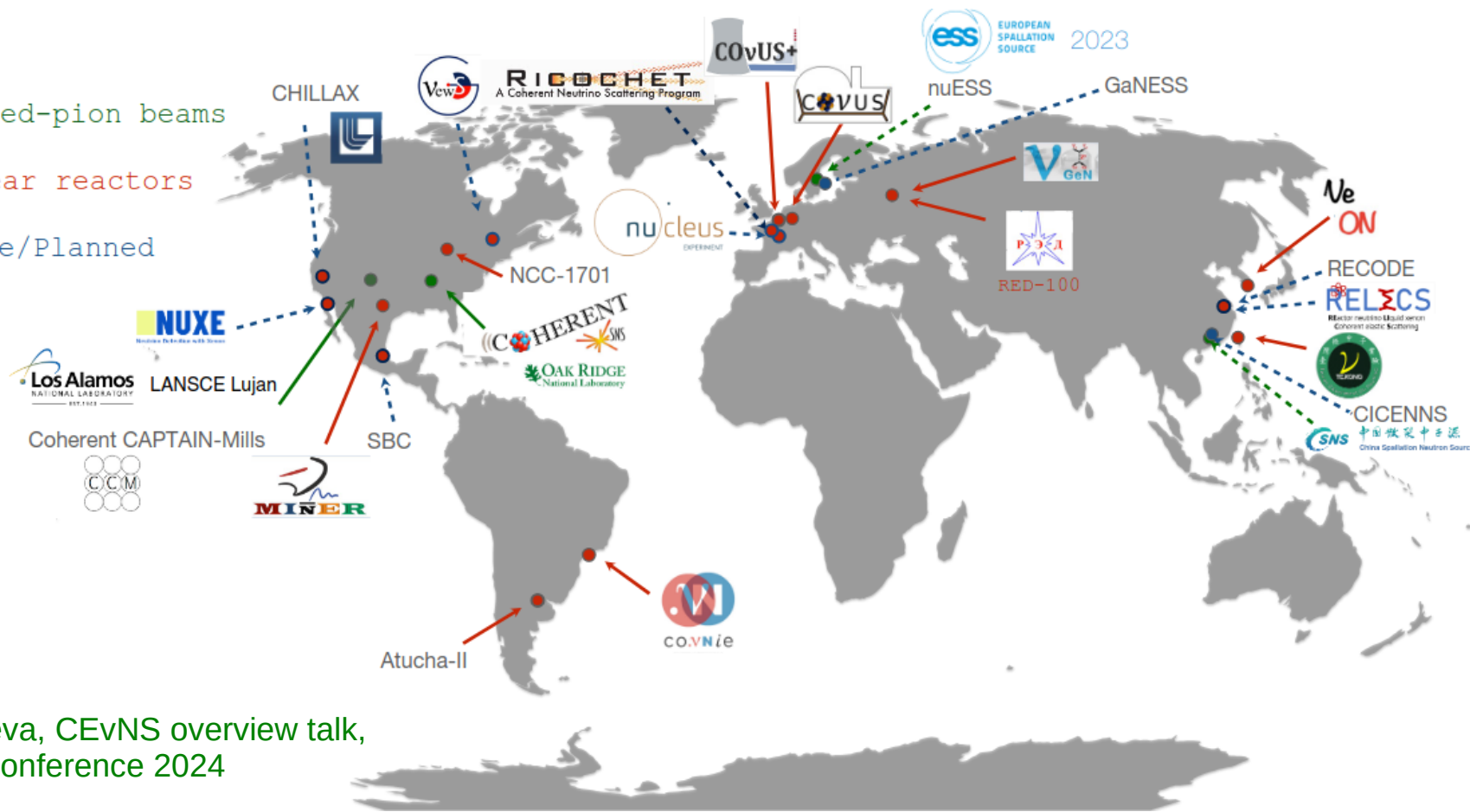
Figure courtesy of A. Bonhomme



- **Neutrino flux:** total same distance **$\sim 10^6$ higher at reactor**
- **Neutrino energies** → recoil energies
 => form factor: **~ 1 at reactor**, < 1 at spallation sources
 => threshold requirements e.g. for HPGe:
 < 0.5 keV_{ee} at reactor, $< \sim 10$ keV_{ee} at spallation sources
- **Background:**
 shallow overburden => shield (+ muon veto)
 spallation source: pulsed, additional suppression $O(10^4)$
 reactor: only sparse outages → **excellent shield needed**

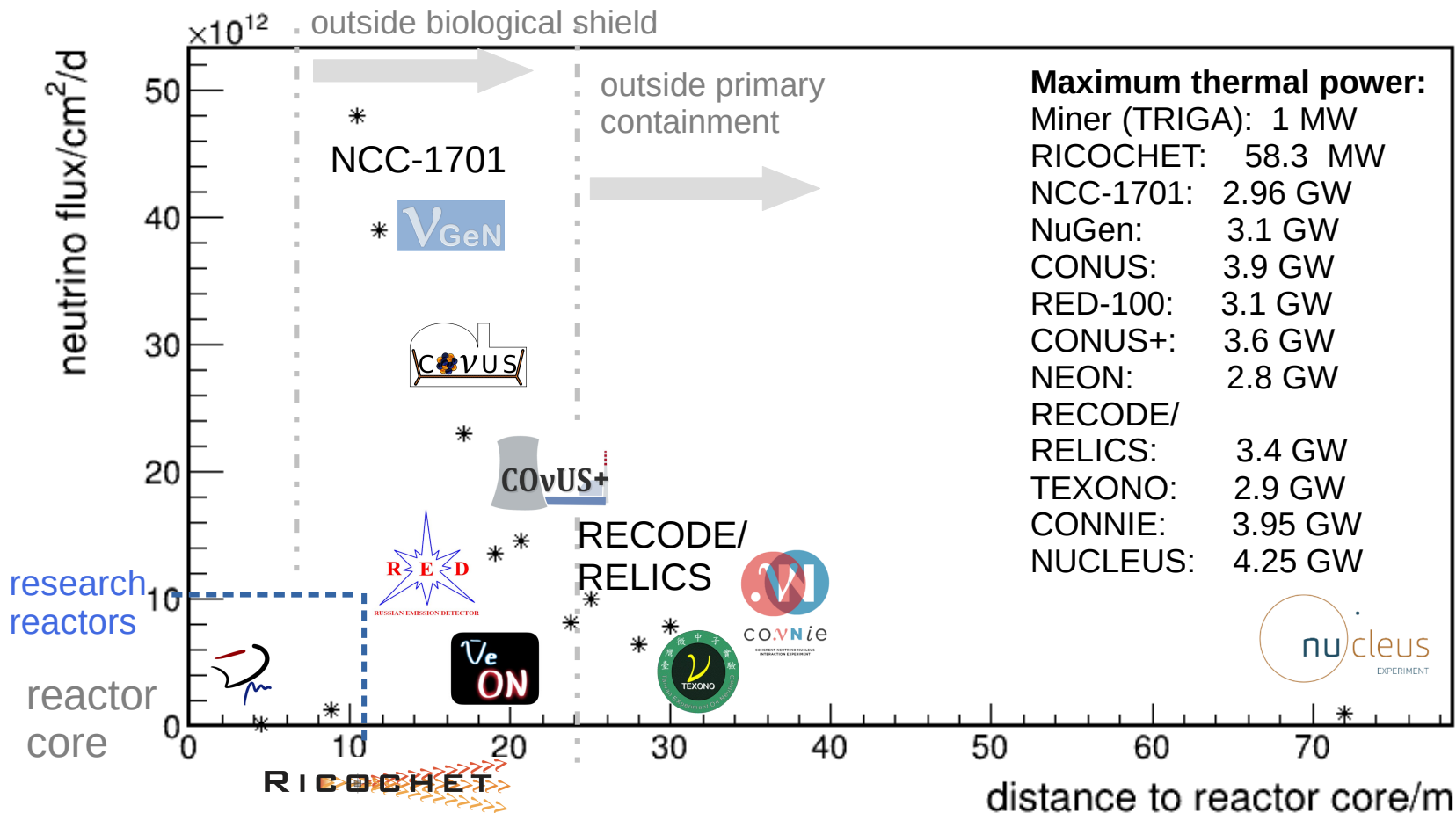
Reactor CEvNS around the world

- Stopped-pion beams
- Nuclear reactors
- Future/Planned



Irina Nasteva, CEvNS overview talk,
Neutrino Conference 2024

Neutrino flux at reactor site

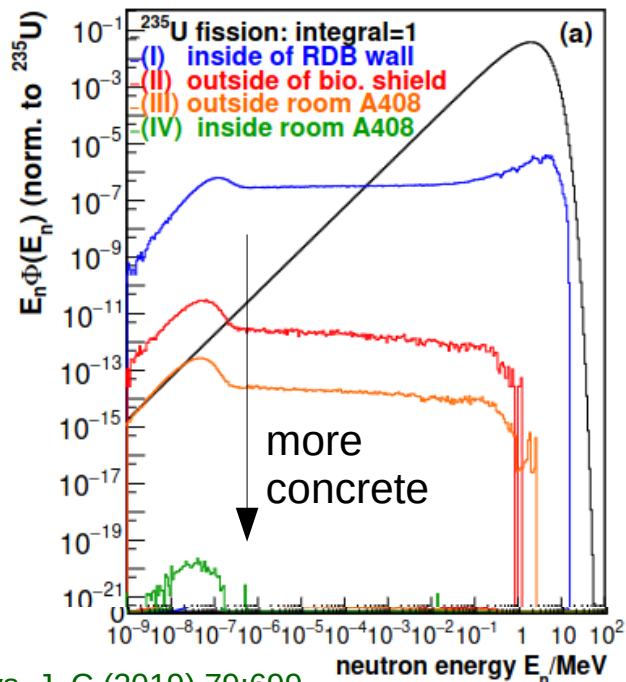


*values reported by experiments

Background mitigation

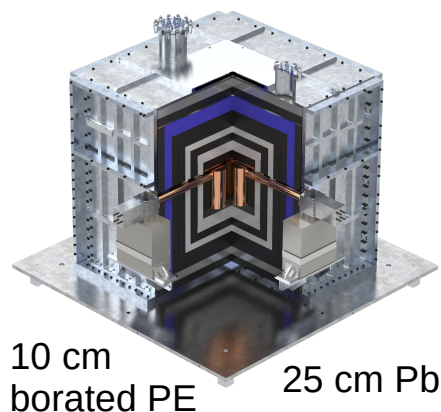
reactor-correlated

- fission neutrons → recoils like CEvNS
- high-energetic gamma-rays from reactor, cooling cycle or neutron capture



=> close to reactor core
 site characterization necessary!
 => adapt shield design

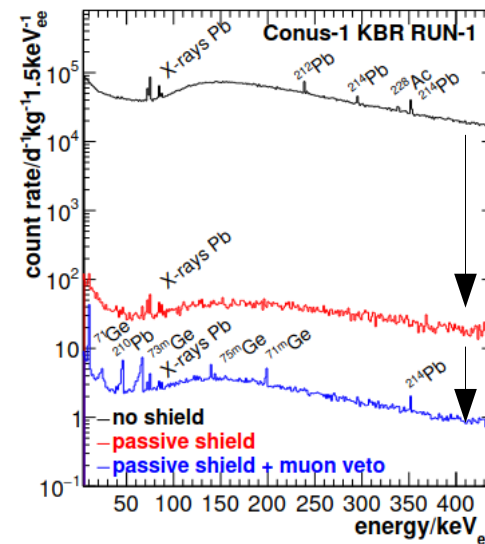
Example: CONUS shield



muon-induced

mostly no overburden at reactor site
 + high-density materials in shield
 => muon-induced neutrons

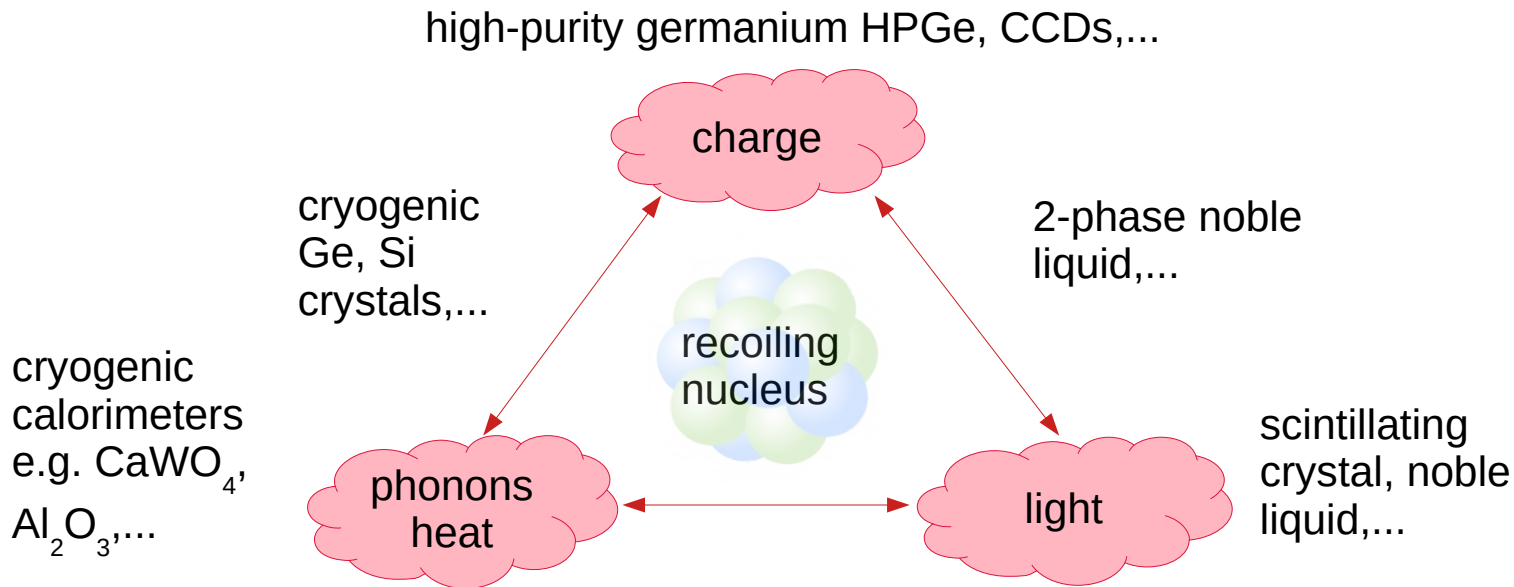
- active veto systems: plastic scintillator, water tank, Ge(NUCLEUS)
- track identification (CCDs)



passive shield

muon veto

CEvNS detectors



Quenching:

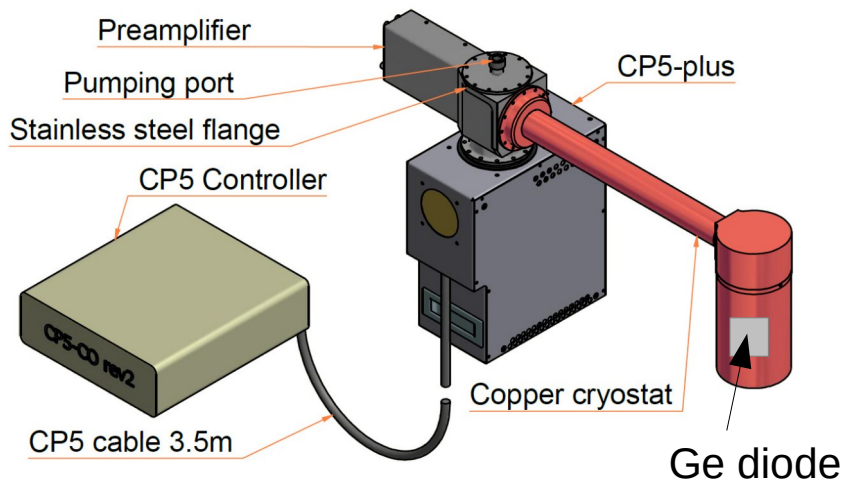
- Quenching factor: $Q = E(\text{meas}) / E_{\text{nuclear recoil}}$
e.g. HPGe: 1keV recoil \rightarrow $\sim 20\%$ ionization (read-out), $\sim 80\%$ phonons (not read-out)

\Rightarrow often not (yet) well known at low recoil energies for CEvNS

\Rightarrow major uncertainty for some technologies, quenching measurements!

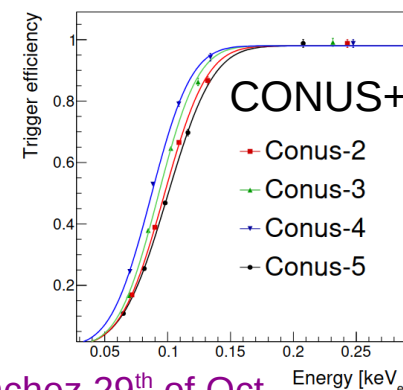
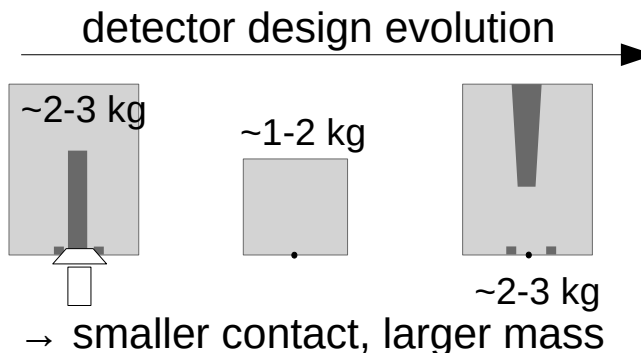
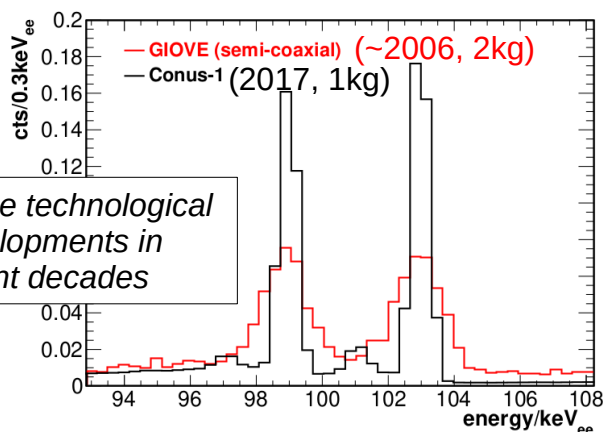
High-purity Ge spectrometer

ionization energy
 mass: O(1 kg)
 rec. thr.: O(1 keV_{nr})
 quenching: yes



	mass/kg	threshold/eVee (trigger efficiency)
NCC-1701	2.4	200 (>0%)
NuGen	1.4	290 (~85%)
CONUS	4	210 (>20%)
CONUS+	4	~160 (100%)
TEXONO	2	200 (~100%)
RECODE	tbd	aim 160 (tbd)

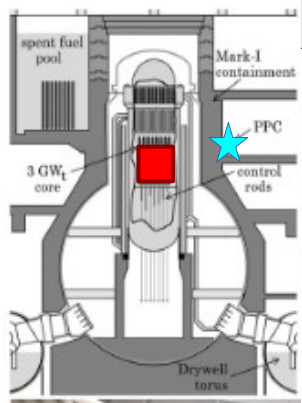
PRD 104, 072003 (2021)
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1342813/contributions/5913887/>
 arXiv:2401.07684v2
 arXiv:2407.11912 (2024)
 PoS (TAUP2023) 226
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1342813/contributions/5913896/>



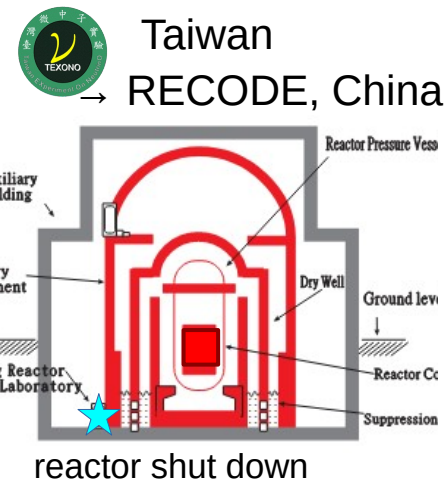
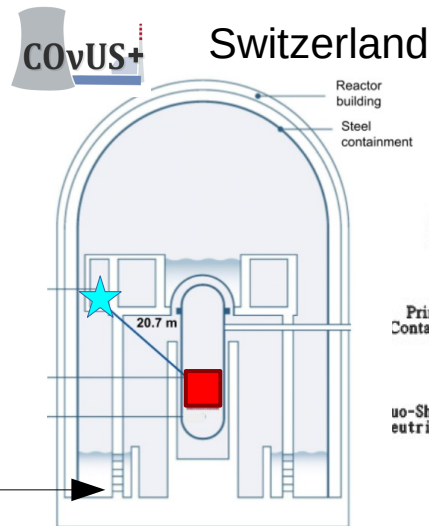
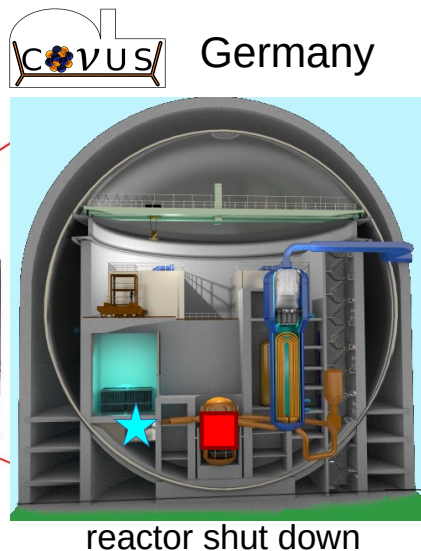
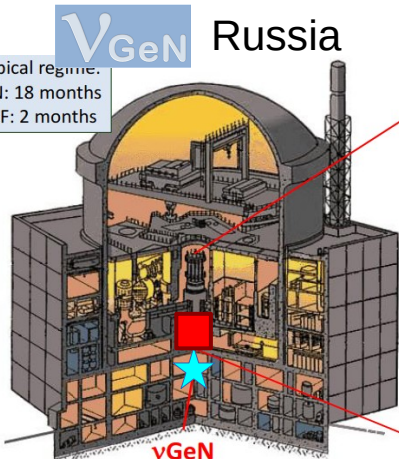
smaller point contact, water cooling

HPGe at reactor site

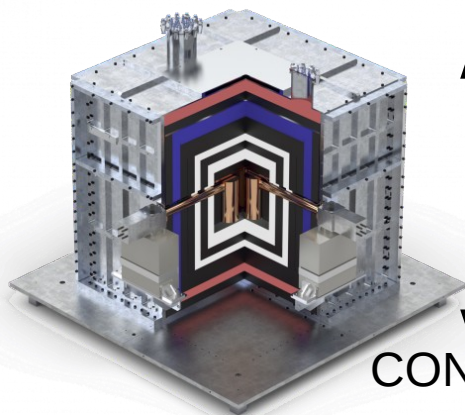
NCC-1701, USA
→ Sweden?



Typical regime:
ON: 18 months
OFF: 2 months



Muon veto



CONUS shield

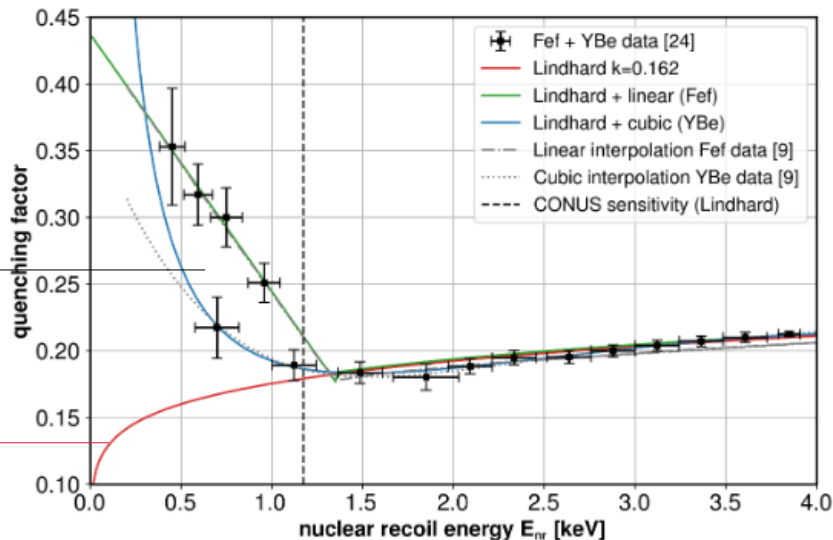
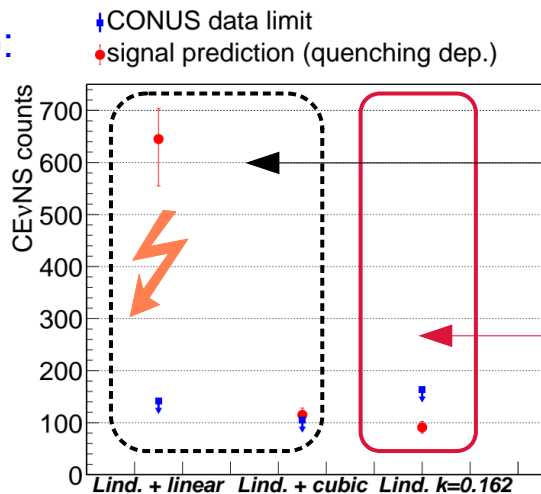
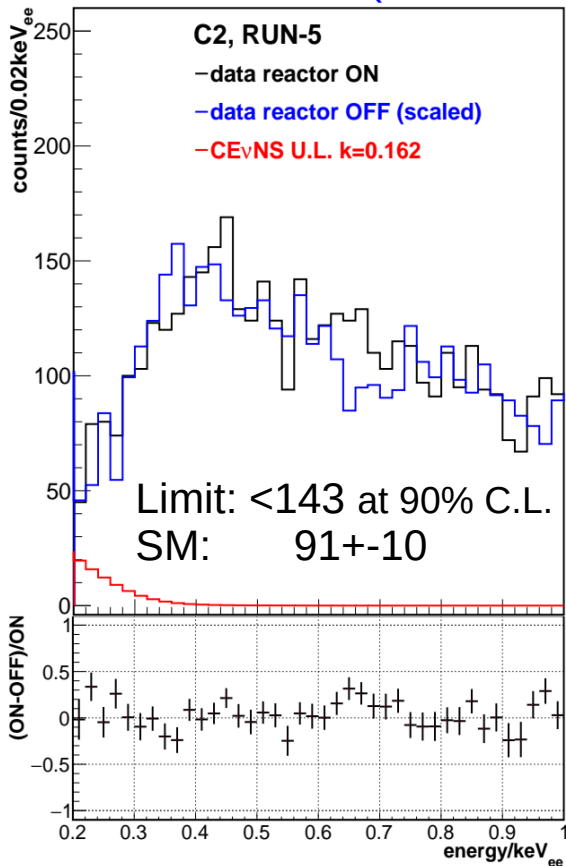
~1 m

	bkg level ROI cts/d/kg/keV	
NCC-1701	~2000, ~500	ON to OFF difference
NuGen	~30	
CONUS	~20	
TEXONO	~50	

16 / 23

HPGe results

CONUS Run-5 (2021-2022):



	Limit	exposure
	Lindhard theory	kgd of ON/OFF
CONUS	x2 SM ($k=0.162$)	426/272
TEXONO	x4 SM ($k=0.157$)	65/438
NuGen	x5 SM ($k=0.162$)	192/53

NCC-1701 SM CEvNS only for alternative Qf 231/60

Talk: K. Ni 29th of Oct.

[arXiv:2401.07684v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.07684v2)

PoS (TAUP2023) 226

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1342813/contributions/5913887/>

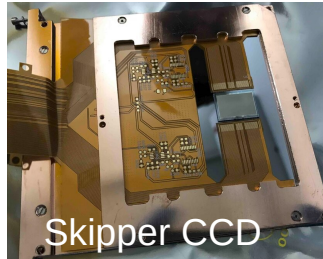
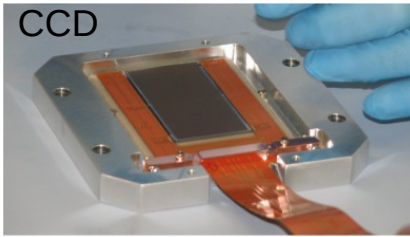
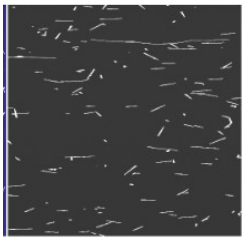
Phys. Rev. Lett. 129 (2022), 211802

Si Charge coupled devices CCDs

ionization energy
 mass: O(1-10 g)
 rec. thr.: O(0.01 keV_{nr})
 quenching: yes

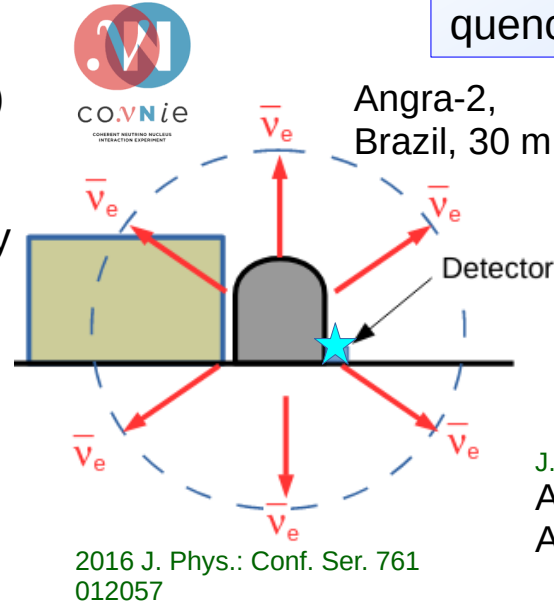
- imaging detector with pixelated readout, very low noise
- cooled to ~130-140 K, low mass, slow readout O(10 min)
- quenching: Sarkis model agrees with data (Lindhard theory + binding energy effects)
- detector upgrade: Skipper CCDs conserve charge during readout, sample charge in each pixel multiple times

significantly lower threshold

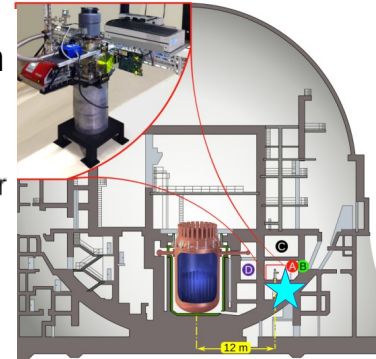


JINST 11 (2016) 07, P07024

arXiv:2403.15976



2016 J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 761 012057



J. High Energ. Phys. 2024, 155
 Atucha-II experiment,
 Atucha-II, Brazil, 12 m
 + Violeta

planned upgrade:
 more exposure needed
 → more skipper CCDs,
 8g in 2024

JHEP 05 (2022) 017

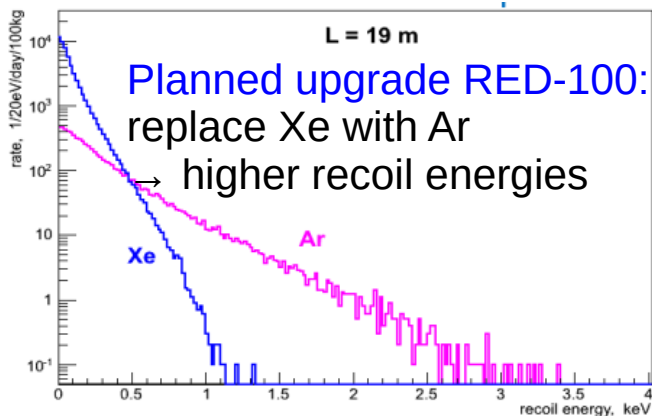
	ion. thr. eV _{ee}	mass	Exposure ON/OFF	Limit
CONUS (HPGe)	210	4 kg	426 kgd, 272 kgd	SM x2
CCDs (CONNIE)	50	8 x 6 g	1.2 kgd, 1.0 kgd	SM x66
Skipper CCDs (CONNIE)	15	2 x 0.25 g	14.9 gd, 3.5 gd	SM x76

Cryo noble liquids

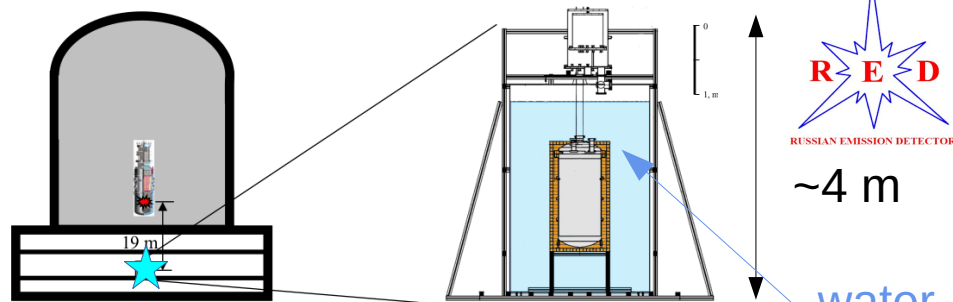
- two-phase gas emission detectors
- Target fiducial volume:
 - RED-100 100 kg liquid Xe
 - RELICS: 32 kg liquid Xe (planned)
- RED-100: Akimov D. Y., et al. JINST 17.11 (2022), T11011
threshold: 4. photoelectrons \leftrightarrow ~ 0.5 keV_{nr}

Below: huge single electron noise bkg
 → reduction in analysis, ML
 first result: **63-94x SM** (prelim.)

https://indico.particle.mephi.ru/event/436/contributions/4291/attachments/2490/4615/ICPPA2024_RED100.pdf



light/charge
 mass: O(10-100 kg)
 rec. thr.: O(1 keV_{nr})
 quenching: yes



KNPP, Russia, 19 m
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1215362/contributions/5300022/>

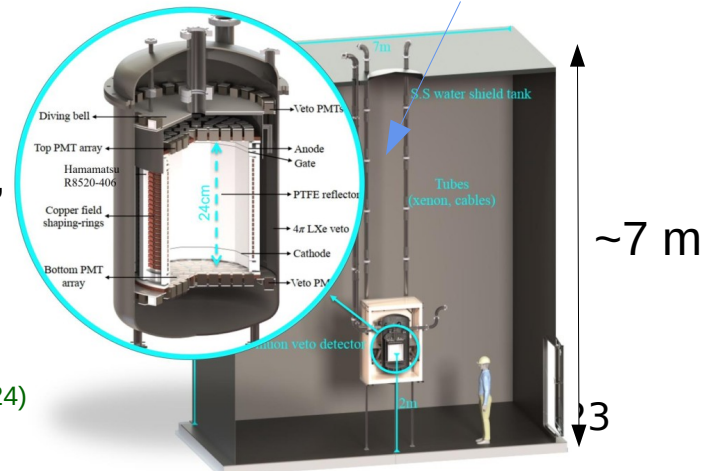


REactor neutrino LIquid xenon
 Coherent elastic Scattering

Sanmen reactor, China,
 planned outside the
 containment at 25 m
 distance

→ no overburden
 PHYS. REV. D 110, 072011 (2024)

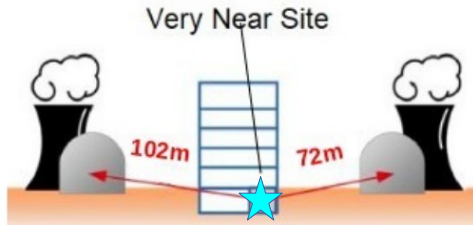
+ NUXE



Bolometers/cryogenic calorimeters

- recoil-included temperature change
- cryogenic temperatures in mK range → large setups → practical constraints
- vibration migration important
- RICOCHET: CryoCube (Ge, ionization + heat), Q-Array (Zn, heat) ~> O(100 eV_{nr})
- NUCLEUS: crystal Al₂O₃, CaWO₄ + transition edge sensor (TES) ~> O(10 eV_{nr})

heat,
heat + ionization
mass: O(1-100 g)
rec. thr.: O(10-100 eV_{nr})
quenching: no

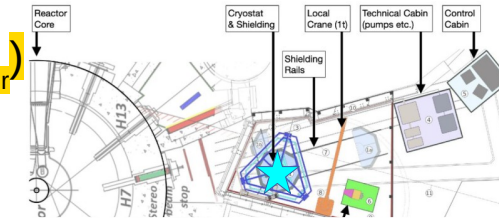


Chooz reactor, France, 72/102 m

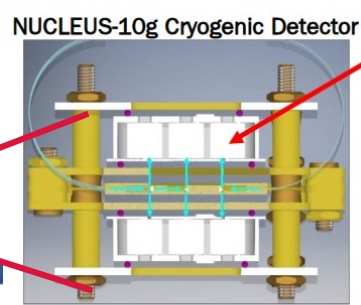
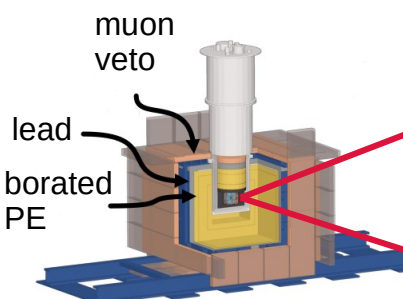


commissioning at TUM,
2025 deployment at Chooz

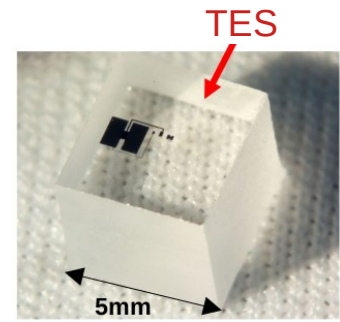
progress in low energy
excess in heat channel!



research reactor 58 MW
ILL, France, 8.8 m



Two 3x3 matrices of target detectors



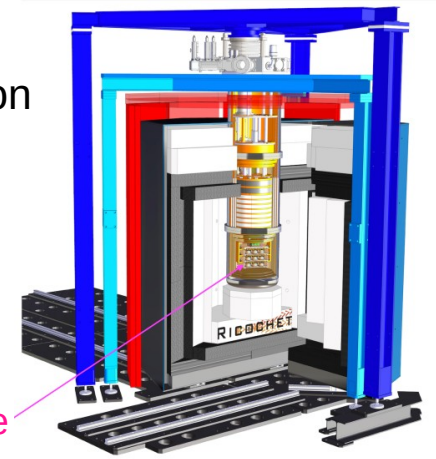
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1215362/contributions/5299993/>

Talk: M. del Gallo 30th of Oct.

RICOCHET

2023: 30eV_{ee} resolution
shown for CryoCube
2024:
commissioning at ILL
2025: start of data
taking planned

Talk: N. Dombrowski 29th of Oct.



CryoCube

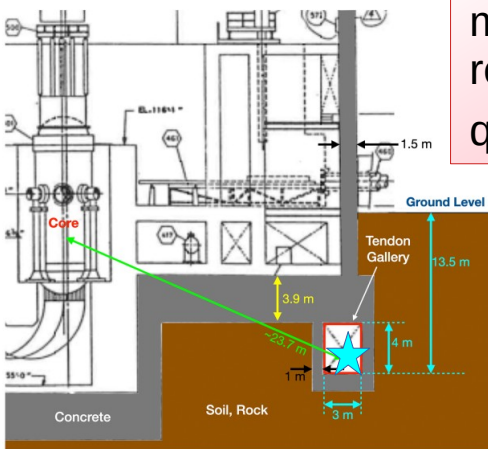
+ MINER

Scintillating crystals and R&D

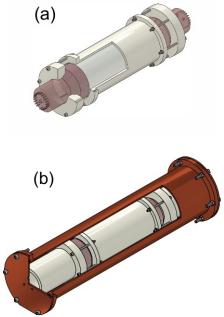


\sqrt{e}
ON

Hanbit, Korea, 24 m



light
mass: O(1 kg)
rec. thr.: O(1 keV_{nr})
quenching: yes



increased light yield from adapted encapsulation: up to 22 NPE/keV
excellent background level

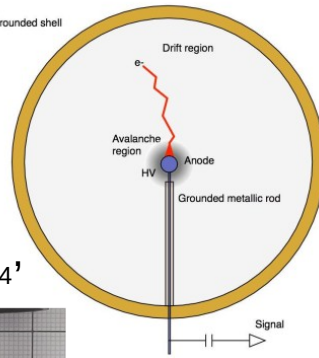
aimed threshold: 5 NPE → ~0.2 keV_{ee}

reactor data since May 2021
total mass 6 crystals: 12.5 kg

Eur.Phys.J.C 83 (2023) 3, 226

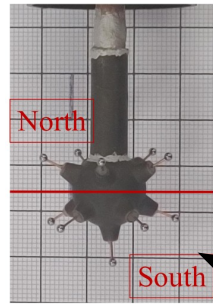
+ lots of R&D: SBC, gaseous Xe TPCs,...

Spherical proportional counters
(ionization energy)

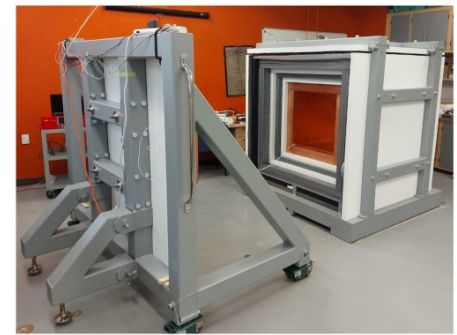


Pressurized gas:
Ne + 3% CH₄,

...



NEWS-G3: same technology as dark matter experiment NEWS-G
aimed energy threshold: 50 eV_{ee}
no reactor site (yet)
potential for directionality!

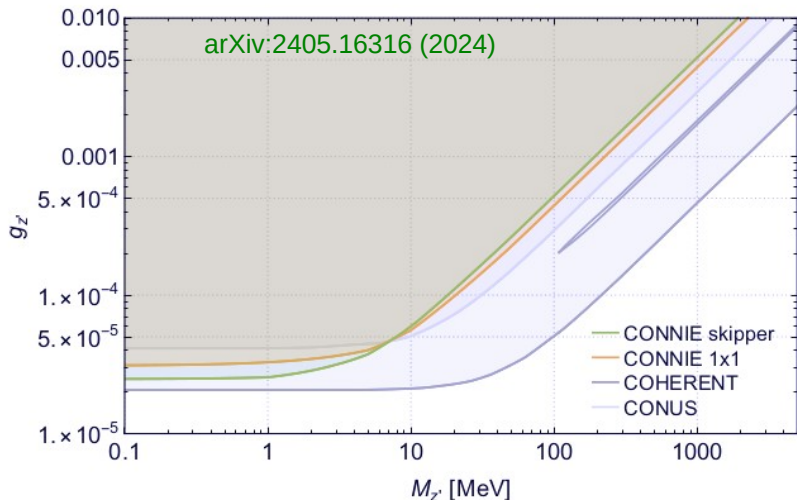


PALEOCCENE: recoil traces in materials, passive color center detectors, potential for directionality

Talk: G. Rodrigues-Araujo 29th of Oct.

Beyond the standard model

→ deviations in rate and/or shape from the SM expectation



non-standard neutrino interactions (NSI),...

light mediators:
vector,
scaler

neutrino magnetic moment:

CONUS (2022): $\mu_\nu < 5.2 \cdot 10^{-11} \mu_B$

(PhD thesis, J. Hempfling, Heidelberg 2024)

TEXONO (2006): $\mu_\nu < 7.4 \cdot 10^{-11} \mu_B$

Phys.Rev.D75:012001

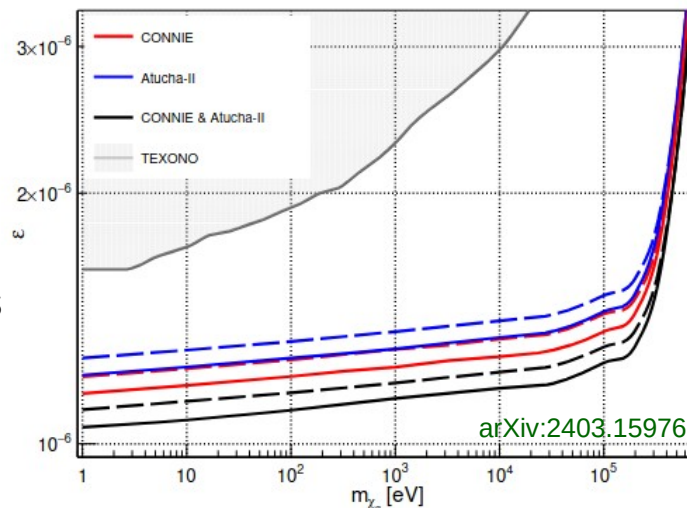
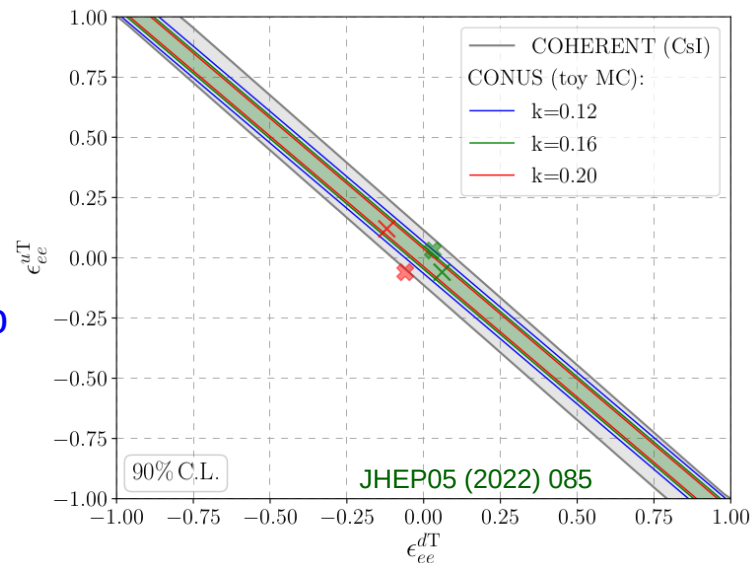
GEMMA: $\mu_\nu < 2.9 \cdot 10^{-11} \mu_B$

Phys. Part. Nuclei Lett. 10, 139–143 (2013)

~one order of magnitude above tonscale experiments

neutrino milli charge:

$$q_\nu^2 < \frac{T}{2m_e} \left(\frac{\mu_\nu}{\mu_B} \right)^2 e_0$$



millicharged particles

Summary

CEvNS=interaction of the neutrino with the nucleus as a whole

signature= tiny recoil of the nucleus hit by the neutrino → quenching

first observation 2017 at SNS by COHERENT, two more detections

→ precision test of SM, neutrino fog, supernovae, nuclear form factor, Weinberg angle, NSI, light mediators, reactor monitoring,....

Multitude of efforts to detect reactor CEvNS!

relationship: mass ↔ threshold

HPGe (4 efforts): CONUS <2x SM

→ upgrades: lower threshold, new reactors

CCDs (3 efforts): CONNIE <66x SM

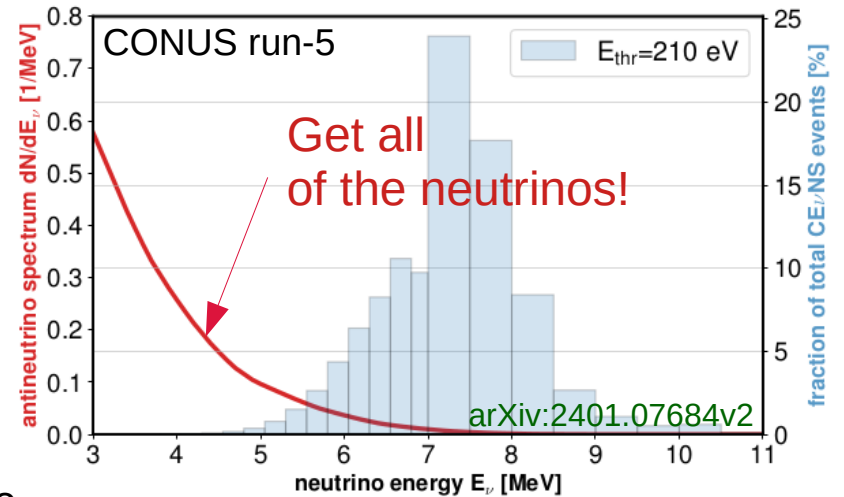
→ upgrades: more exposure for skipper CCDs

two phase liquid Xe (2 efforts): RED-100 <63-94x SM

→ upgrade: Xe to LAr (single PE background)

heat detection/bolometers (2 efforts): commissioning phase

+ scintillating crystals, proportional counter, gaseous TPCs, R&D for directionality,...



Thank you for your attention!